

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

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R 031435Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9445

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GR

SUBJECT: PUBLICITY-SEEKING DEPUTY CLAIMS FORMER AMBASSADOR TASCA SHOULD

BE PROSECUTED

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, NEW DEMOCRACY DEPUTY SAVVOURAS SUBMITTED A PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION ON JULY 2 REQUESTING CRIMINAL PROSECUTION OF FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR TASCA AS CORRESPONDENT AND MORAL ACCOMPLICE IN THE MISAPPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS. HE ALSO PROPOSED THAT THE USG BE REQUESTED TO PRODUCE MR. TASCA TO GREEK JUSTICE TO EXPLAIN HIS PARTICIPATION IN "ECONOMIC-POLITICAL SCANDALS".

2. SAVVOURAS BASED HIS REQUEST ON A LETTER DATED MARCH 12, 1974 WHICH AMBASSADOR TASCA HAD SENT TO THEN MINISTER OF INTERIOR TSOUMBAS. THE LETTER, THE TEXT OF WHICH WAS PUBLISHED IN SEVERAL NEWSPAPERS ON JULY 3, INQUIRED ON BEHALF OF A U.S. FIRM, CONTROL DATA, CONCERNING ITS INDIRECT INTEREST IN A PROJECT OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR TO ESTABLISH COMPUTER/COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES BETWEEN THE MINISTRY AND THE NATIONS'S REGIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE CENTERS. (A COPY OF THE LETTER IS BEING POUCHED TO EUR/SE.)

3. SAVVOURAS IS A FIRST-TIME DEPUTY EAGER TO MAKE PUBLICITY,
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PARTICULARLY AT OUR EXPENSE. (PREVIOUSLY HE SUCCEEDED IN

MAKING THE NEWS ON THE BASIS OF ALLEGATIONS AGAINST PX OPERATIONS AND ALSO BY PARTICIPATING IN A MEETING OF STRIKING U.S. AIR BASE EMPLOYEES). ACCORDING TO A PARLIAMENT SECRETARIAT SOURCE, SAVVOURAS IN FACT HAS NOT AS YET SUBMITTED THE TEXT OF THE TASCA LETTER AND HIS QUESTION TO THE PARLIAMENT. HE OBVIOUSLY RELEASED THE STORY TO THE PRESS FIRST.

4. COMMENT: SAVVOURAS, PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION IS CLEARLY AN ABSURD NON-STARTER. NEVERTHELESS, ONCE HE TABLES IT, THE GOG WILL HAVE TO SUBMIT A REPLY WHICH SAVVOURAS MAY USE IN A FURTHER ATTEMPT TO DISTORT THE FACTS OF THE CASE. AMBASSADOR TASCA'S LETTER AS A LEGITIMATE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST ON THE PART OF THE EMBASSY IN A PROJECT INVOLVING A U.S. EQUIPMENT SUPPLIER.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Drafter: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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